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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/516,790	12/03/2004	Micael Blomquist	821-63	7345

7590 10/17/2006

Dilworth & Barrese
333 Earle Ovington Boulevard
Uniondale, NY 11553

EXAMINER

TRAN, BINH Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3748

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/516,790	Applicant(s) BLOMQUIST, MICAEL	
	Examiner BINH Q. TRAN	Art Unit 3748	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/03/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt and entry of Applicant's Preliminary Amendment dated August 22, 2006 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 15-17, and 22-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. More specifically,

In claims 15-17, and 22-31, the phrase “*capable of*” is indefinite. The phrase has been held that the recitation that an element is “capable of” performing a function is not a positive limitation but only requires the ability to so perform. It does not constitute a limitation in any patentable sense. *In re Hutchison*, 69 USPQ 138.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 12-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Opris et al.

(Opris) (Patent Number 6,981,370).

Regarding claims 12, 18, and 20, Opris discloses a device for purifying exhaust gases from a combustion engine (102), comprising an arrangement (104) for recirculating exhaust gases from the engine to an air intake (108) thereof, a valve device (132) controlled by a control device (244) for regulating the relation between fresh air and recirculated exhaust gases supplied to the engine, a regenerable filter (106) adapted to catch particulate constituents of the exhaust gases, and means for recording the temperature of the exhaust gases from the engine (e.g. See col. 5, lines 26-53), the control device (e.g. 140, 144) being adapted to be supplied with temperature information from said temperature recording means (244), wherein the control device (244) is adapted, with the aid of said temperature information and the valve device (132), to regulate the relation between fresh air and recirculated exhaust gases supplied to the engine to achieve a relation between NO_x and soot of the exhaust gases from the engine that is favorable for regeneration of the filter (106) (e.g. See col. 3, lines 9-53; col. 6, lines 1-67; col. 7, lines 1-8).

Regarding claims 13, and 19, Opris further discloses that the control device is adapted, with the aid of said temperature information and the valve device, to regulate the relation between fresh air and recirculated exhaust gases supplied to the engine so that regeneration of the filter will take place at prevailing temperature level of the exhaust gases (e.g. See col. 5, lines 26-53).

Regarding claims 14, and 21, Opris further discloses means (128) for converting NO occurring in the exhaust gases into NO₂ (e.g. See col. 3, lines 9-53).

Regarding claims 15, and 22, Opris further discloses that the converting means comprises a catalyst (128) capable of converting NO into NO₂, which is arranged upstream of the filter (106) (e.g. See col. 3, lines 9-53).

Regarding claims 16, and 23-24, Opris further discloses that the converting means comprises a catalytic material capable of converting NO into NO₂, which material is integrated in the filter (e.g. See col. 3, lines 9-53).

Regarding claims 17, and 25-31, Opris further discloses that the filter comprises a catalytic material capable of lowering the temperature at which particulate constituents deposited in the filter are ignited and combusted (e.g. See col. 3, lines 9-53).

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure and consists of five patents:

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Miura et al. (Pat. No. 6816771), Hirota et al. (Pat. No. 6644022), Itoh et al. (Pat. No. 6769245), Shimasaki et al. (Pat. No. 7104051), and Ericksson et al. (Pat. No. 6625978) all discloses an exhaust gas purification for use with an internal combustion engine.

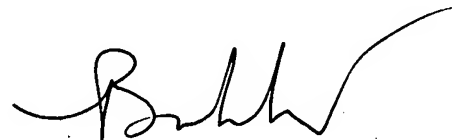
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Binh Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-4865. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas E. Denion, can be reach on (571) 272-4859. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (571) 273-8300 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BT
October 15, 2006



Binh Q. Tran
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3748